

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of delivering goods from a supplier to a buyer utilizing a system having at least one delivery agent, at least one store, at least one supplier, and a plurality of buyers, wherein the at least one delivery agent, the at least one store, and the at least one supplier are coupled to a communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

~~a respective store~~ contemporaneously communicating respective order information from a respective store to a logistics intermediary;

generating respective invoice information from said respective order information;

~~said logistics intermediary~~ electronically communicating said respective invoice information ~~generated from said respective order information~~ logistics intermediary to a respective delivery agent based on an electronic manifest;

~~said respective delivery agent~~ noting exceptions and electronically communicating the exceptions to said logistics ~~intermediary;~~ intermediary, wherein the exceptions are noted and electronically communicated by said respective delivery agent;

~~said logistics intermediary~~ electronically communicating exceptions from said logistics intermediary to ~~said respective~~ a respective supplier and to the respective store from which goods were ordered;

~~said respective delivery agent~~ electronically communicating ~~the disposition a disposition~~ status of ~~the respective~~ respective shipped goods from said respective delivery agent to said logistics intermediary; and

~~said logistics intermediary~~ updating said electronic ~~manifest~~ manifest, wherein said electronic manifest is updated by said logistics intermediary.

2. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 1, wherein said step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ electronically

communicating the disposition status of the respective shipped goods further comprising the step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ shipping said ordered goods from said respective delivery agent to the respectivea respective buyer.

3. (original) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 1, wherein said communications network is an Internet based communication system.

4. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 3, ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of ~~said logistics intermediary communicates shipping information comprises the step of~~ selecting at least one delivery date based on available delivery capacity for each respective delivery agent.

5. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 4, further comprising the step of ~~the respective supplier~~ adding delivery information to said electronic manifest, wherein the delivery information is added by the respective supplier, and the delivery information comprises ~~the quantity, a quantity,~~ type, and delivery date of respective goods to be delivered to said respective delivery agent.

6. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 5, wherein each respective buyer selects a delivery date for each respective good based on ~~the available~~ an available delivery schedule identified in said electronic manifest.

7. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 1, wherein said order information communicated by ~~said respectivea respective~~ buyer comprises ~~the branda~~ a brand of good, type of good selected, model number of the good selected, ~~the installationan~~ an installation service selected, ~~the deliverya~~ delivery address, and ~~the deliverya~~ delivery date selected.

8. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 7, further ~~comprising the step of said logistics intermediary~~ comprising:

generating a respective invoice, wherein said respective invoice is generated by said logistics intermediary; and

communicating the respective invoice from said logistics intermediary to said respective store.

9. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 8, further comprising the step of ~~said logistics intermediary~~ communicating the ~~respective~~respective master requisition labels and an associated manufacturer shipping labels from said logistics intermediary to said respective delivery agent.

10. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 9, further comprising the step of ~~said logistics intermediary~~ communicating said respective master requisition ~~number~~labels and an associated manufacturer shipping number from said logistics intermediary to said respective store.

11. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 10, further comprising the step of ~~said respective store~~ communicating said respective manufacturer shipping number and associated shipping address from said respective store to said respective supplier.

12. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 11, further comprising the step of ~~said respective supplier~~ generating a respective purchase order, advance shipping notice, and purchase order label associated with ~~the respective~~a respective master requisition ~~number~~number, wherein the respective purchase order, the advance shipping notice, and the purchase order label are generated by said respective supplier.

13. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 12, further comprising the step of ~~said respective supplier~~ communicating said ~~respective~~a respective purchase order invoice from said respective supplier to said respective store.

14. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 9, further comprising the step of ~~said logistics intermediary~~ communicating said ~~respective~~a respective manufacturer shipping number and associated shipping address from said logistics intermediary to said respective store.

15. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 14, further comprising the step of ~~said respective supplier~~ delivering the ~~respective good~~respective goods from said respective supplier to said respective delivery agent.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in ~~claim 16,~~claim 15 further comprising the step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ attaching the shipping ~~label~~labels obtained from said logistics intermediary to ~~the associated good~~said respective good, wherein the shipping labels are attached by said respective delivery agent.

18. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 17, further comprising the step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ communicating ~~the shipping~~a shipping status and exceptions from said respective delivery agent to said logistics intermediary.

19. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 18, further comprising the step of ~~said logistics intermediary~~ communicating the shipping status and exceptions from said respective delivery agent to said respective store.

20. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 18, further comprising the step of ~~said respective store~~ communicating the shipping status and exceptions from said respective store to said respective supplier.

21. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 20, further comprising the step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ confirming the respective good delivery date and associated delivery time of day with said respective ~~buyer~~buyer, wherein the respective good delivery date and associated delivery time of day are confirmed by said respective delivery agent.

22. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 21, further comprising the step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ delivering the

~~respective good~~respective goods to the respective ~~buyer~~buyer, wherein the respective goods are delivered to the respective buyer by said respective delivery agent.

23. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 17, further comprising the step of ~~said respective delivery agent~~ communicating ~~the shipping~~a shipping disposition from said respective delivery agent to said logistics intermediary.

24. (original) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 5, wherein the delivery information comprises the quantity of goods, type of goods, and delivery date of respective goods to be shipped to each respective delivery agent.

25. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in claim 7, wherein the installation service desired comprises ~~the type~~a type of installation of ~~the respective~~a respective good at ~~the respective buyers address~~an address of the respective buyer.

26. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in ~~claim 16~~claim 1 wherein the step of noting exceptions comprises the step of identifying “overage”, “shortage”, “damage”, and “suspend”.

27. (currently amended) The method of delivering goods as recited in ~~claim 16~~claim 1 further comprising the step of recording ~~the shipping~~a shipping disposition, wherein said recording the shipping disposition comprises the step of identifying “complete”, “damage”, “refusal”, and “cancel”.

28. (currently amended) A system for delivering goods from a plurality of suppliers to a plurality of buyers based on respective orders placed by the plurality of buyers, said system comprising:

a communications network;

a logistics intermediary coupled to said communications network, said logistics intermediary having an electronic manifest; wherein said logistics intermediary is adapted to adjust good deliveries based on an exception report;

at least one delivery agent coupled to said communications network, wherein said at least one delivery agent is adapted to ~~delivery~~deliver and install the goods ordered by ~~the respective~~a respective buyer based on information in said electronic manifest; and

at least one store coupled to said communications network, wherein said at least one store is adapted to receive ~~orders~~order information generated by each respective buyer and communicate the order information to said logistics intermediary via said communications network.

29. (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 28, wherein said communications network is an Internet based communications network.

30. (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 29, wherein said communications network further comprises at least one computing unit A having a display and being adapted to be coupled to an Internet based server.

31. (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 30, wherein said communications network further comprises a computing unit B having a display and being adapted to communicate with said at least one computing unit A via the Internet based server.

32. (currently amended) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 31, wherein said computing unit B is adapted to house the electronic manifest and the ~~delivery management system~~system for delivery of goods.

33. (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 31, wherein said computing unit A further comprises a scanner, said scanner being adapted to scan bar code labels and to uplink and unload data via said respective computing unit A to said logistics intermediary.

34. (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 33, wherein said scanner further comprises a scanner display and keyboard input.

35. (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 28, wherein said logistics intermediary is adapted to generate a master requisition label, associated manufacturer shipping labels, and an advanced shipping notice.

36. (currently amended) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 28, wherein said logistics intermediary is adapted to communicate with ~~said~~ respectivea respective store, ~~said-respectivea respective~~ respective delivery agent, and ~~said~~ respectivea respective supplier.

37. (currently amended) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 36, wherein said logistics intermediary communicates with said respective store, said respective delivery agent, and said respective supplier in a manner selected from ~~the-groupa group~~ including, mail, courier, fax, and the Internet.

38. (currently amended) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 28, wherein ~~said-respectivea respective~~ supplier is adapted to generate a purchase order for ~~said-respectivea respective~~ store based on the order information generated by the respective buyer.

39. (currently amended) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 32, wherein ~~said-scannera scanner~~ employs a computer program having ~~said~~ “exception”an “exception” report and ~~said-“disposition”a “disposition”~~ report.

40. (currently amended) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 39, wherein said scanner employs the computer program having an exception report comprising a “overage” menu, a “shortage” menu, a “damaged” menu, and a “suspend” menu each respective menu being selectable from ~~the-displaya display~~ of said scanner.

41 (original) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 39, wherein said scanner employs the computer program having a disposition report comprising a “complete” menu, a “damage” menu, a “refusal” menu, and a “cancel” menu each respective menu being selectable from the display of said scanner.

42. (currently amended) A system for integrating information for the delivery goods from a supplier to a buyer, the system having at least one delivery agent, at least one store, at least one supplier, and a plurality of buyers, said system comprising:

means for utilizing a communications network to transfer order and shipping information between ~~the respective~~ a respective supplier, ~~the respective~~ a respective delivery agent, and ~~the respective~~ a respective store;

means for utilizing a logistics intermediary coupled to said communications network, said logistics intermediary being adapted to employ an electronic manifest;

means for providing order and shipping information to the at least one delivery agent and the at least one supplier, wherein said at least one delivery agent is adapted to ~~delivery~~ deliver and install the goods ordered by the respective buyer based on information in said electronic ~~manifest~~; and manifest;

means for scheduling ~~the shipment~~ a shipment of goods produced by the at least one supplier based on said order and shipping information, and an exception report; and

means for updating the electronic manifest after the order has been executed.

43. (original) The system for integrating information as recited in claim 42, wherein said means for utilizing a communications network comprises means for the at least one store to receive said order information generated by each respective buyer and communicate the order information to said logistics intermediary.

44. (currently amended) The system for integrating information as recited in claim 42, wherein said means for utilizing a communications network further comprises means for said logistics intermediary communicating with the respective store, the respective delivery agent, and the respective supplier in a manner selected from ~~the group~~ a group including, mail, courier, fax, and the Internet.

45. (previously presented) The system for integrating information as recited in claim 44, wherein means for updating the electronic manifest further comprises means for generating said exception report.

46. (original) The system for integrating information as recited in claim 45, wherein said exception report comprises an “overage” menu, a “shortage” menu, a “damaged” menu, and a “suspend” menu.



47. (canceled)

48. (previously presented) The system for integrating information as recited in claim 45, wherein means for updating the electronic manifest further comprises means for generating a disposition report.

49. (previously presented) The system for delivery of goods as recited in claim 28, wherein said logistics intermediary is further adapted to adjust good deliveries based on a disposition report.

50. (currently amended) A ~~method of delivering goods from a supplier to a buyer utilizing~~ a system having at least one delivery agent, at least one store, at least one supplier, and a plurality of buyers, wherein the at least one delivery agent, the at least one store, and the at least one supplier are coupled to a communications network, said ~~method~~system ~~comprising the steps of:~~comprising:

a logistics intermediary electronically communicating respective invoice information to a respective delivery agent based on an electronic manifest, said logistics intermediary electronically communicating said respective invoice information via a server to said respective delivery agent, said respective invoice information generated from said respective order information, said respective delivery agent noting exceptions and electronically communicating via the server the exceptions to said logistics intermediary; and

a respective store contemporaneously communicating via the server respective order information to a logistics intermediary; said logistics intermediary.

~~said logistics intermediary electronically communicating respective invoice information generated from said respective order information to a respective delivery agent based on an electronic manifest; and~~

~~said respective delivery agent noting exceptions and electronically communicating the exceptions to said logistics intermediary.~~

51. (currently amended) The ~~method of delivering goods~~system as recited in claim 50, wherein said logistics intermediary further electronically communicates exceptions to said ~~respective~~a respective supplier.

52. (currently amended) The ~~method of delivering goods~~system as recited in claim 51, wherein said logistics intermediary further electronically communicates exceptions to ~~said respective~~a respective store from which goods were ordered.

53. (currently amended) The ~~method of delivering goods~~system as recited in claim 51, wherein said respective delivery agent further electronically communicates ~~the disposition~~a disposition status of ~~the respective~~respective shipped goods to said logistics intermediary and said logistics intermediary updates said electronic manifest.